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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—Extensions of Remarks

of experience he had, a man was credited with 1 year of high school. Two of the trainees were not high school graduates.

A 4-week initial phase was devoted to orientation and basic instruction in math, physics, chemistry, and communications. The classes were taught by a high school teacher and a chemist, who worked part time, and the program's regular instructor, Gordon Perley. (Perley, 34, has been in the waste water treatment field for 12 years and has been a licensed stationary engineer, qualified to handle power equipment, for the past 4 years. He and other full-time instructors in other cities were taught how to teach the courses through a series of seminars held around the Nation last year under the direction of the U.S. Office of Education.)

A good deal of the instruction in the first phase was by movies and slides. The trainees also toured a number of water treatment plants and learned the fundamentals of handling chlorine.

The second phase lasted 21 weeks and the course of instruction became somewhat less tightly structured as the men spent only 1 day a week in class and 4 in on-the-job training at four different plants. They now studied their basic courses in some depth. And they learned about the tanks, pumps, meters, valves, and mixers in a treatment plant and actually performed some of the tasks in the treatment of water wastes, under the expert guidance of skilled foremen.

After the second phase they graduated from the apprentice ranks. Each was classed as an Operator I, the first step on the career ladder, was tested, and received a raise in pay.

During the third and final phase, they have been spending all 5 days a week in on-the-job training, with Perley exercising general supervision in the four plants. To reach Operator II status, each man will be required to have 1 year's experience.

One of the trainees is Walter Davis, 45, a high school dropout. Unlike most of the recruits, he was not a new hire. He had been a janitor for the St. Louis Sewer District for 2 years, earning \$2.67 an hour, when he entered the program. He is now an Operator I and plans to make waste water treatment plant operation a career.

"At first you're kind of frightened, especially with the math, and with so much equipment to get acquainted with," he said. "But when you get into it, it's not as hard as you think."

SHORTER COURSE URGED

He was not bothered by the classroom training as high school dropouts often are. "It's better than just on-the-job training, where they just explain it and you get too much to remember," he said. "We got the basic principles (in class) and when you go on the job, you know what to expect and to look for. It makes it much easier."

He said he liked the training and the work "very much." He added: "They say they're short of people in this particular trade. So it's steady work and there's no telling how how far you can go. People think it's a dirty job but usually it isn't. It's got great possibilities and really looks promising for the future. Once you get the training you can get a job anywhere."

The program was deliberately designed nationally to upgrade in-plant employees like Davis. The idea was that moving such men upward out of routine jobs would help create a more flexible career ladder within local civil service structures. Moving men upward also opens entry-level jobs to the hard-core unemployed.

"It's a good thorough course," said Perley. "But 44 weeks is long and I'd like to see it shortened. We need more manpower and we need it now. I'd like to see the classes cut down from 320 hours to about 160. It's worth a try. We could use 20 to 30 more trained men right now (in the St. Louis system)."

FACT SHEETS OF COMMITTEE OF CONCERNED ASIAN SCHOLARS

HON. MICHAEL J. HARRINGTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1970

Mr. HARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars is comprised of students and faculty who believe in the necessity of relating the professional study of Asia to current ethical and political problems. Founded in 1968, the committee now has chapters at every major university center for the study of Asia in the United States.

The Harvard chapter of the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars has revised and updated its packet of fact sheets. I think my colleagues in the House would be most interested in the information presented by CCAS and at this point I insert the fact sheets in the RECORD:

A REBUTTAL TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S APRIL 30 SPEECH

(A fact sheet issued by the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars, Harvard University.)

In an attempt to justify his decisions, President Nixon "explains" the situation in Cambodia and tells us what we will do.

"For the past five years . . . North Vietnam has occupied military sanctuaries . . . Vietnamese Communists began to expand these sanctuaries four weeks ago."

In fact, on March 18 a right wing coup in Cambodia replaced Prince Sihanouk (the man who had kept Cambodia neutral and spared her the agonies of the war) with General Lon Nol, whose troops began attacking Vietnamese Communist forces. When the Vietnamese Communists began fighting back, they were driving away from the Vietnamese border, toward Phnom Penh, where rightist Lon Nol has his headquarters.

"The aid we will provide will be limited to the purpose of enabling Cambodia to defend its neutrality."

Cambodian neutrality was destroyed in mid-March when General Lon Nol, in anticipation of U.S. backing, overthrew the neutralist government of Prince Sihanouk and turned Cambodia into a battlefield for foreign powers.

"Once enemy forces are driven out of these sanctuaries and their military supplies destroyed, we will withdraw."

Even if the U.S. withdraws its combat forces from Cambodia, the Saigon regime has indicated that it has no similar intention regarding withdrawal of its own forces. The South Vietnamese Army is reliant upon the U.S. for everything from spare parts to transportation to advisers to tactical combat support. By creating a situation in which the South Vietnamese could invade Cambodia, Nixon has opened a wider Indochina war and jeopardized the withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam.

"I warn the North Vietnamese that if they continue to escalate the fighting when the United States is withdrawing its forces, I shall meet my responsibility as Commander-in-Chief of our Armed Forces to take the action that I consider necessary to defend the security of our American men."

Since the North Vietnamese "escalation" of which Nixon speaks is self-defense, he seems to be telling them that he reserves the right to employ U.S. forces in any way he sees fit, but if they fight back, he will escalate even further.

"We have stopped the bombing of North Vietnam."

Yes, but four air raids were flown during the week following Nixon's speech and the

Secretary of Defense has threatened that more raids will be launched if the North Vietnamese attempt to interfere with the daily U.S. violations of North Vietnamese air space.

... the future of South Vietnam (should) be determined not by North Vietnam, not by the United States, but by the people of South Vietnam themselves.

These are strange words from a country that actively supported a regime (Diem's) which obstructed the holding of elections for all of Vietnam in 1956, and since then has virtually dictated the political life of the southern half of Vietnam. Not only would the Thieu regime fall if it did not have our support, it would never have come to power had we not been there.

"American policy since then [1954] has been to scrupulously respect the neutrality of the Cambodian people . . . from 1965-69, we did not have any diplomatic mission whatever [there]."

It was not due to voluntary disengagement that we had no diplomatic mission in Cambodia from 1965-69. Prince Sihanouk refused all U.S. military and civilian aid after 1963, and broke off diplomatic relations entirely in 1965 when it appeared that the CIA was attempting to overthrow him. Since then, the CIA has continued to recruit, train, and pay elements of the Khmer Serai, a right-wing group opposed to Sihanouk.

The President's final remarks reveal what seems to be the real reasons for his decision:

"If when the chips are down the U.S. acts like a pitiful giant, the forces of totalitarianism and anarchy will threaten free nations and free institutions throughout the world."

The fear that we will be regarded as weak and spineless if we withdraw from Southeast Asia is contrary to the opinions expressed by the majority of the world diplomatic community. Many countries, rather than seeing us now as a staunch defender of peace and freedom, consider us stubborn and senseless in our continued attempts to win a clear-cut victory. As a leading Japanese official said recently, "What we are concerned about in Vietnam is not your good faith, but your good judgement." The most prominent result of our actions seems to have been to alienate our allies and bring untold horror and suffering to hundreds of thousands of American and Vietnamese soldiers and families.

"A Republican Senator [Aiken, Vermont] has said that this action means my party has lost all chance of winning the November elections. Others are saying today that this move against the enemy sanctuaries will make me a one-term President. No one is more aware than I of the political consequences of the action I have taken. It is tempting to take the easy political path. . . ."

This tone of martyrdom is distasteful. He insists on attempting to strengthen his arguments by calling attention to the difficulty of the decisions he must make. The difficulty of a decision however is no insurance of its correctness. Unless his decision can be justified on other terms, his emotional appeal merely clouds the issue.

One does not "withdraw" by attacking. One does not stop a war from "dragging on interminably" by widening it. One does not "keep casualties down" by sending troops into battle.

CAMBODIA

(A fact sheet issued by the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars, Harvard University.)

Area: 70,000 square miles.
Population: 6½ million; 85% Cambodian, 8% Vietnamese, 6% Chinese.

Government: Neutralist Kingdom until Army coup of March, 1970.

Capital: Phnom Penh (pop. 450,000).

Armed forces: The Cambodian Army